Student Biography

Yobani is a very sweet and quiet boy. He didn’t seem to have too much trouble opening up and turned just about every question I asked into an open ended question; always revealing more about him. He lives near the school with both of his parents and three older siblings. His family is originally from Mexico so Yobani and his siblings help to translate for their non-English speaking parents. Yobani himself has never been to Mexico but hopes to visit there someday and to meet the family that still lives there.

Yobani’s favorite subjects are math and science. He is especially interested in dinosaurs and explosions (science experiments). He hopes to one day go to college and then join the FBI so that he can protect people. Yobani likes playing video games on his Nintendo DS or PlayStation 2, riding his bike to “get some fresh air”, and playing with the puppy he got this fall. He said that he doesn’t especially like to read but owns several books. His favorites are the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series which he has read all but one of. He also frequents that public library and although it is mostly to use the computers there, he does check out a book about once a week. Yobani reads everyday but that reading time typically takes place at school when he has finished his school work or during their daily silent reading time. He and his friends talk about books they’ve read and swap books on occasion. Yobani acknowledges that reading will make him smarter and does not seem to have any negative feelings toward it.

Yobani was able to read all of the Fry words on the first 100 list without any difficulty. He let me know that his teacher taught him how to break down passages, sentences, and words when he is having trouble understanding what he is reading. However, when it came to his writing, his spelling was extremely phonetic. Even words I would consider simple for a fourth grader, like wait for example, were broken down so phonetically that they were almost unreadable when written. I am looking forward to reading with Yobani and getting a true sense of his strengths and weaknesses.